umbilicus, which it largely conceals, with a deep narrow furrow behind it. It advances thin and pointed, curving over to the right to its angular junction with the basal lip. *Umbilicus* defined by a spiral thread and with two other spirals within it. It is not so much small as concealed by the pillar-lip. H. 0·82. B. 0·63, least 0·53. Penultimate whorl 0·19. Mouth 0·4; breadth 0·38.

Perhaps *Trochus* (*Cantharidus*) *iris*, Humph., while totally unlike in most respects, nevertheless approaches this in form more than any other shell does.

Note as to the position of the Genus *Seguenzia* among the Gastropoda. By J. Gwyn Jeffreys, LL.D., F.R.S., F.L.S.

[Read February 6, 1879.]

The Rev. R. Boog Watson in a valuable paper, which was lately read before the Society, on some of the Mollusca procured by the 'Challenger' Expedition, included the genus *Seguenzia* in the *Trochus* family.

When I described that genus in the 'Proceedings of the Royal Society' (No. 73, 1876, p. 200), I said that it evidently belonged to the *Solarium* family; and I gave my reason for this opinion, to which I adhere. I am sorry not to agree with my friend Mr. Watson; but such difference of opinion is useful to science.

The chief points of distinction between the genera of Trochidæ and Solariidæ consist in the shell of the latter not being pearly or nacreous inside, and in the operculum being ear-shaped and few-whorled, with a lateral nucleus and excentric spire, as in the Littorinidæ. The operculum in the Trochidæ is circular and multispiral, with a central nucleus. I have fortunately succeeded in extracting the operculum from a small fresh specimen of *Seguenzia formosa*; and I find it to be ear-shaped, very thin, paucispiral (having two whorls only), the spire being very small, excentric, and placed on the columellar side. It resembles that of *Solarium* and *Adeorbis*, genera of the same family. Mr. Watson says that my account of the operculum represents "a feature, which, according to Quoy and Gaimard ,is shared by *Euchelus*, Philippi's subgenus of *Trochus*." Now all that Philippi remarks as to the operculum of *Euchelus* is, "der Deckel hat nach Quoy und Gaim. nur wenige Windungen;" but no mention is made of the shape of the operculum nor of its spire and nucleus. I have carefully examined

all the species, five in number, of *Euchelus* (*Aradasia*, Gray) in the British Museum, which show the operculum; and in every species the operculum is more or less circular, and the nucleus is central. In *A. cancellata* of Krauss and *A. baccata* of Menke the operculum is at first closely multispiral, as in other Trochidæ, although the last whorls more rapidly enlarge. Chenu describes the operculum of *Euchelus* as "subarrondi."

Seguenzia formosa has a nacreous exterior; but *S. carinata* and *S. elegans* have the same composition and appearance as the shells of *Solarium hybridum* and *Adeorbis subcarinatus*. All pearly shells do not necessarily belong to the *Trochus* family, *e. g. Turbo*, *Haliotis*, and *Nautilus*, to say nothing of *Anomia*, *Avicula*, and other bivalve shells.

The labial slit occurs not only in *Pleurotomaria*, but also in *Emarginula*, *Scissurella*, *Siliquaria*, and the Pleurotomidæ, as well as in *Seguenzia*.

It is to be hoped that any further doubt as to the systematic position of this remarkable genus will ultimately be cleared up by the discovery and examination of the soft parts of the animal. Deep-sea researches have auspiciously commenced: they must be continued and extended.

N.B. Two species of *Seguenzia* (viz. *formosa* and *carinata*) were fully described by me in the 'Annals and Magazine of Natural History' for April 1877, pp. 319 and 320; and it surely was superfluous for Mr. Watson to redescribe them at equal length. If every specimen of every species were described in the same way, the literature of natural history would become unnecessarily voluminous.